



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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February Minutes

VISION 2020 STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2009 MEETING

In attendance: Andrew Fischer, Joey Glushko, Clare Gordon, Jane Howard, Gordon Jamieson, Elizabeth Karpati, Josh Lobel.

- The **minutes** of the December and January meetings were accepted as presented.
- **Census survey returns:** 2609 on paper, 260 on-line so far. Many expressions of interest for task groups; lists should be available next week.
- **Task Group reports:**
 - **Environment:** Sustainable Arlington has an exhibit at the Library in February. The Energy Smackdown continues until the summer; Arlington is leading. Spy Pond has no new developments since January. Reservoir has not met lately, should schedule a meeting to get people who indicated interest on the census survey started.
 - **Diversity** is working with the Disability Commission, has some businesses signed up for the Disability Job Fair scheduled for April 2.
 - **Fiscal Resources** has already invited people who signed up on the census survey, is working on a retrospective analysis of the current five-year plan and an analysis of what our taxes are spent on now, and is about to start on the invitation list for the State of the Town address.
- **Warrant articles:** The one on after-school programs will be presented to the Selectmen soon. The waterbodies article will not ask for a specific sum in the text but we hope to get at least \$15,000. It will go to the Fin Com on February 25 *[later changed to March 4]*. The RFP for weed treatment for Spy Pond will go out in the next couple of weeks.
- The **Health Care discussion** on February 4 received favorable comments for being well organized and getting the participants engaged. About half of the participants had some connection to the health care field. Results are now being edited.
- **Town website:** Joey distributed samples and gave instructions* on how task groups can post information directly without going through her.
- **Town Hall topics:**
 - Kevin O'Brien is retiring this summer as head of Planning and Community Development; a search is on for his successor.
 - The Symmes project is on hold for lack of financing but the project for the eastern section of Mass. Ave. is moving along.
 - The next U.S. census starts April 2010; verification of addresses starts this summer. MAPC wants each town to establish a "complete count committee" to improve the response rate for the last census, which was only 69%. Vision 2020 agreed to do outreach, including promoting the census in the 2010 survey. The census form will have only 7 questions.

* Website instructions:

On home page, click on "Town Governance" on left side of page to see task group pages.

To post something, click on "Request/Answer Center" on home page just below picture,

then choose “Make a service request” to post minutes, update meeting dates, etc.